Appendix A

Approximately 140 distinct occupations[5] are included in the 12 dashboards Alberta Human Resources and Employment prepared. Occupations selected are based on the National Occupational Classification (NOC) system. The NOC is a system that classifies and describes occupations in the Canadian labour market.

Occupations are grouped by industry based on the concentration (percentage of those working in the occupation) employed in a particular industry. Occupations listed in each industry group are based on the North American Industry Classification System. For instance, the industries where Automotive Service Technicians (NOC 732) are concentrated include: Retail Trade (76%), Transportation (12%), Public Administration (3%), Construction (1%), and other (8%). According to these results, the Automotive Service Technicians occupation would appear in the Retail Trade, Transportation, Public Administration, and Construction dashboards.

The 12 industry groups selected and described in the dashboards are aligned with the sectors highlighted in the sub-strategies from *Building and Educating Tomorrow's Workforce* and are based on the key sectors profiled in *Understanding Alberta's Labour Force: Looking to the Future*, as well as the industry groups used in *Alberta Careers 2004*. The selected industry groups include:

	Industry Group
1	Agriculture and Agri-Food
2	Construction
3	Forestry
4	Finance, Insurance and Real Estate
5	Health Care
6	Information and Communication Technology (ICT)
7	Manufacturing
8	Mining, Oil and Gas
9	Public Administration
10	Retail Trade
11	Tourism
12	Transportation

[5] Not all 140 occupations are listed in this particular dashboard.

Appendix B

Economic Indicators

Unemployment Rate – The unemployment rate identifies the proportion of people in the labour force[6] who do not have jobs but are actively looking for jobs. According to Statistics Canada, an unemployment rate of less than three per cent is an indicator of a shortage. Alberta's unemployment rate has been steadily declining in the past decade – from 8.8 per cent in 1994 to 4.6 per cent in 2004. Our latest monthly statistics reports an even lower rate for July 2006 at 3.6 per cent.

Vacancy Rate – The vacancy rate, taken from the *Alberta Wage and Salary Survey*, determines the percentage of unfilled jobs compared to all filled and unfilled jobs. The overall vacancy rate is calculated as below:

$$\frac{\text{Number of vacancies}}{\text{Number of employed + number of vacancies}} \times 100$$

Hiring Difficulties Rate – The hiring difficulty rate represents the proportion of employers who indicated hiring difficulties in the *Alberta Wage and Salary Survey*. It was determined by the percentage of 'Yes', 'No', and '*NA* responses to the survey question.

Demand-Supply Ratio – The demand-supply ratio compares labour market imbalances among occupations. It is taken from Alberta Human Resources and Employment's *Occupational Demand and Supply Outlook* model. This model projects that overall 400,000 new jobs will be created by 2015, but only 314,000 workers will be available for these jobs. This leaves a shortfall of 86,000 workers.

Additional provincial labour market information, including regional information can be obtained at www.hre.gov.ab.ca/lmi.

[6] The labour force includes both those that are employed and unemployed.

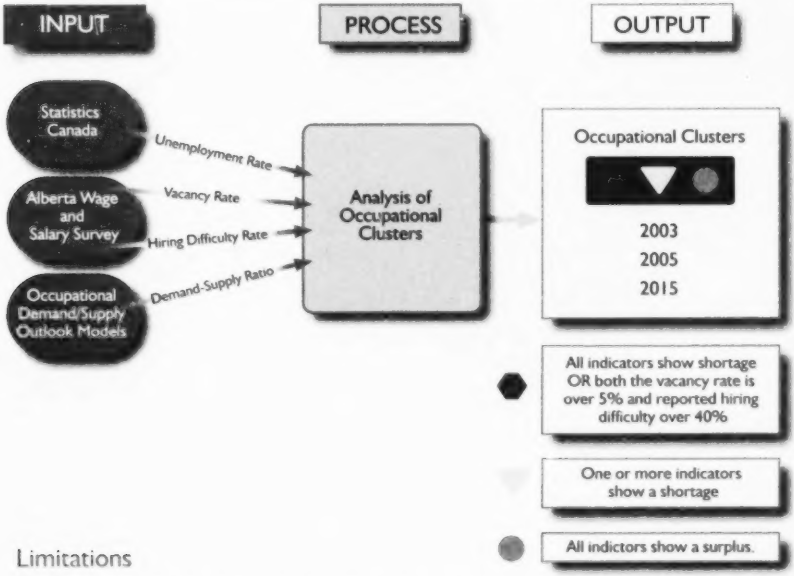
Appendix C

The forecasted indicator for 2015 is expressed as either red or green based on its associated demand-supply ratio. This is due to the ratio resulting in either greater than or less than one.

If the ratio is greater than one, then demand is greater than supply. This is a supply shortage, which means the indicator would be red.

If the ratio is less than one, then supply is greater than demand. This is a supply surplus and the indicator would be green.

The following diagram illustrates how the four variables are utilized to come up with a dashboard indicator for specific occupational clusters.



Limitations

- Data is shown at the provincial level and may not account for regional or local variations.
- Data does not account for seasonal fluctuations.
- The 2015 outlook is determined by only one indicator, which can show a surplus or shortage; caution (yellow) indicators are not included.
- Economic indicators are each given equal weighting. It has not been determined if any one of the economic indicators is a better measurement of current or future skill shortages.

Appendix D

The years shown in the dashboards, 2003, 2005, and 2015, were chosen to demonstrate whether a certain trend is occurring in specific occupational clusters.

The 2003 and 2005 years were used because these were the two most recent years that the *Alberta Wage and Salary Survey* was conducted, which the vacancy rate and hiring difficulty rate are taken from. The next *Alberta Wage and Salary Survey* is scheduled for 2007.

Projection information of 2015 was taken from the 2005-2015 Occupational Demand and Supply Model.

Notes

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